

Life of Christ

Mary and Martha

Luke 10:38-42

Younger Verse

Let your light shine. Matthew 5:16

Older Verse

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven. Matthew 5:16

Welcome Time

Have you ever said something and the person was not listening to you? It doesn't feel good when someone is not listening to what you are saying. Let's see what happened in the story today—let's really listen!

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

“Jesus is coming! Jesus is coming!” Mary probably shouted as she came running into the house where Martha was working. Mary and Martha were sisters who lived in the town of Bethany with their brother Lazarus. They had many friends, but Jesus was a very special friend.

Martha probably said, “Come help me get things ready.”

Mary and Martha loved each other and shared the work of keeping their home clean. But now Mary was so happy she could hardly wait. It had been a long time since she had seen Jesus. He had been teaching and preaching in many places. Mary knew she would sit up late listening to Jesus talk about God.

Finally, Jesus arrived and Mary and Martha went to the door to welcome Him. Mary was so interested that she stopped her work when Jesus came. She sat close and listened to Jesus so she wouldn't miss a single word He said. Jesus told many wonderful stories.

While Mary was listening, Martha was busy bringing food to everyone. Martha got tired of serving the guests by herself, so she complained to Jesus, “Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me so I have to do all the work by myself? Tell her to come and help me!”

Jesus answered, “Martha, Martha, you worry about too many things. What Mary is hearing is more important to her than serving or eating. She has chosen the right thing and it will not be taken away from her.”

Martha was jealous of her sister. She was mad that Mary got to sit and listen while she cooked and served the food. Jesus was not telling Martha that cooking was wrong. He was trying to explain that Martha had a wrong attitude and should not compare her actions to those of her sister. When you love a person, you aren't jealous of

Lesson Goals

Learn how to listen better

Learn that we do not have to worry about what others do; we must do what Jesus wants us to do

them or compare yourself to them.

The Bible doesn't say what happened next. What do you think happened? (Listen for answers) The Bible does tell us that Jesus visited the sisters later. Do you know who was the first to run to Jesus—Martha! Seems like she learned a lesson that it is more important to listen to Jesus than worry about things.

Jesus wants us to choose Him over T.V. or things. He wants us to know that He loves us and asks us to listen and obey Him. God's Word tells us that we must not compare ourselves to other people. We must look and listen to what God wants for us and do it.

Do you love Jesus? Does it show? Can people see that you love Jesus? Jesus did something incredible for us. He died on a cross—in our place—for our wrong things. That's how much He loves us. How much do you love Him? Right now you can trust Jesus and let Him be your best friend. He will help you love others and become better listeners. We can learn to listen to what God wants and listen to others and tell them about Jesus.

Learning Activities

There are several pages of fun activities to help you apply the lesson. Be creative and have fun!

Memory Verse Activities

Try to say the verse as quiet as you can! Then, say it as LOUD as you can!

Prayer Time

Ask the kids to pray silently for their sisters and brothers. Then pray out loud that each child can be a friend to his sisters and brothers. Pray for them to trust in the Lord with ALL their heart.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Clean up and serve snacks. You may want to designate one person as your "Martha" for the day to help pass out snacks.

Planning for August 1st
Prayer
Luke 11:1-13

Preschool Lesson
for
Mary and Martha

Bring a kitchen utensil as a talking prop today. It could be a wooden spoon or spatula etc. This utensil will tell the story today!

Hi kids! I want to tell you a story today about two sisters in the Bible. They were friends of Jesus. When they heard that He was coming to visit them, they were so excited.

Martha loved to cook. She began to think of all the special things she would like to cook for Jesus. What would you like to cook for Jesus if He came to your house?

Mary was the other sister. She was excited because she wanted to hear all the things Jesus had to say and learn about all the places He had been.

Mary watched out the window for Jesus to come. Suddenly, she saw Him. She was so excited, she ran to see Him. Martha stayed and finished cooking.

Other friends came over to see Jesus too. They all sat down to eat the delicious meal that Martha had made. Mary sat down too. She wanted to hear every word that Jesus said. She had forgotten about the food. She wanted to listen to Jesus.

Martha was in the kitchen by herself. She was getting really tired and upset. She was mad because Mary was not helping. She was only sitting down and listening. Martha got so angry that she went straight to Jesus and asked Him to make Mary help her!

Do you know what Jesus said? Jesus told Martha that she should not worry about what others do. He told her that Mary was doing something important—listening and learning.

Martha was not wrong because she was cooking. She was wrong because she was not putting Jesus first. Jesus helped her see that she should do what Jesus wants and let Him take care of what others are doing.

Jesus wants us to listen and learn about Jesus like Mary listened to Jesus. We can really listen when we are quiet and pay attention to the person speaking. Let's try to listen to our teachers and parents this week!

Pray and ask God to help us be like Jesus.

Hands-On Activities for Mary and Martha

For preschoolers, take time to pretend with a kitchen and make-believe food. Use boxes to be the stove and fridge. "Sample" the delicacies and compliment every chef!

Let the kids make something to eat today! If there is no stove, make peanut butter sandwiches and cut into fun shapes. If a stove is available, slice and bake cookies are easy and fun. Use aluminum foil so there are no cookie sheets to clean up!

Make puppets with craft sticks or tongue depressors and act out the story.

Another idea is to make paper aprons. Give each child a big paper sack. Let them design their apron. Cut a hole in the top for their head.

Try a listening activity: Ask the kids to close their eyes or turn around. Now drop a pin or other small object. Ask the kids to raise their hand when they think they hear the sound of the object hitting the table or floor. Take turns dropping the object(s).

Make big paper ears to help the kids remember to listen more this week.

For preschoolers, sing this song to the tune of London Bridge.
Jesus came to see His friends,
see His friends, see His friends,
Jesus came to see His friends
They were happy.

Martha baked a loaf of bread
loaf of bread, loaf of bread.
Martha baked a loaf of bread
Just for Jesus.

Mary listened carefully
carefully, carefully.
Mary listened carefully
Just to Jesus.